and two dependent children up to twenty-one years of age shall be entitled to hospitalization cover in the event of death or permanent disability of the insured person for an amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand rupees per annum.

The scheme was started in 2003. So far, as per available information, insurance claims amounting to Rs. 1,84,53,157.00 have been paid against 366 settled claims.

Further, whenever any case relating to payment of compensation in respect of any emigrant comes to the notice of the Ministry, it takes up the matter immediately with the Indian Embassy/Mission concerned, who is turn takes up the matter with the foreign employer for payment of suitable compensation. During 2006-07, out of the 19 compensation related cases taken up by the Ministry, compensation has been paid in four cases. During 2007, petitions of two widows from Andhra Pradesh have been received, which have been taken up by the Ministry with the Indian Embassy/ Mission concerned for immediate action.

Indians committing suicides in Dubai

†3103. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the number of Indians committing suicides in Dubai is on the rise;

(b) whethery any information has been received from Indian Embassy in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government would collect the required information immediately and placed it before the House?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) As per information received from the Consulate General of India, Dubai, the number of suicides of Indians registered in the Consulate are 69,84 and 109 for the year 2004, 2005 and 2006 respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.